

LOUIS WEAVER TIMBER SALE  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
South Douglas Resource Area  
EA# OR105-96-04

Date Prepared: February 15, 1996

**Finding of No Significant Impact**

The South Douglas Resource Area, Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management, has completed the environmental analysis on the Louis Weaver Timber Sale located in T28S R3W Sections 20, 21, 22, 29, 30, 31, & 32. Two alternatives were analyzed: the no action and the proposed action (Alternative 2). Alternative 2 is described in the attached Environmental Assessment (EA, p. 4).

There were no cultural resources identified in the project area, and it is not within the proximity of wetlands, park lands, prime farmlands, or wild and scenic rivers. There were no Native American religious concerns identified through scoping.

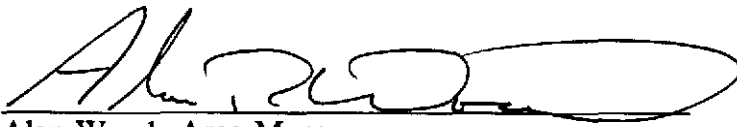
Field surveys for Special Status Plant populations that have the potential to occur in the project area would be conducted during the blooming season. If found, the populations would be buffered for protection from timber harvest and surface disturbance. Louis Creek is a perennial fish-bearing stream that requires a 320' Riparian Reserve on either side. There is also one potentially fish-bearing perennial stream adjacent to one of the units that would require a 320' Riparian Reserve. There are approximately eleven intermittent nonfish-bearing streams within the harvest units and three adjacent to the units that require 160' Riparian Reserves. Part of the retention trees would be clumped around draws, headwalls, depressions, drainages and unstable areas that do not qualify for Riparian Reserves. Yarding away from these areas would also be required. These mitigations assure that no unique characteristics would be impacted (CEQ Regulations, section 1508.27(b)(3 & 8)). There would be no significant impacts to any special status plants, nor the Umpqua basin cutthroat trout or coastal coho salmon.

Suitable northern spotted owl habitat would be removed from within the provincial home ranges of five owl sites, which constitutes a "may affect" determination. Two of the five sites are unoccupied. Three sites are below the 1,182 acre threshold for "incidental take" of a listed species prior to harvest. An additional site would be below the threshold after harvest. Dispersal habitat would also be reduced in two quarter townships, but would not be reduced below the 50 percent threshold on either site. The bald eagle and peregrine falcon have not been observed in the sale area, and the sale area is beyond the range of the Columbian White-tailed Deer and marbled murrelet. Consultation with the US Fish & Wildlife Service is in progress and once completed, reasonable and prudent measures would be applied. There would be no significant adverse impacts to the spotted owl or other special status species (CEQ, section 1508.27(b)(9)).

Of the ten points under section 1508.27(b), the following will not be discussed further in this

document, because there are no: significant effects on public health or safety; highly uncertain or unknown risks; precedents for future actions; and no violations of Federal, State, or local laws.

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the EA (pp. 9-13), I have determined that Alternative 2 will not have significant impacts on the human environment and an environmental impact statement is not required. The project is in conformance with the Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP) for the Roseburg District, approved by the Oregon/Washington State Director on June 2, 1995. The Aquatic Conservation Strategy will be met (ROD/RMP, p. 19). The Best Management Practices (BMP's) listed in Appendix D of the ROD/RMP (p.129-143) were used to develop project design features to mitigate impacts.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Wood', written over a horizontal line.

Alan Wood, Area Manager  
South Douglas Resource Area

2-15-96  
Date